

Agricultural REVIEW

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Raleigh, N.C.

Upcoming Ag Review deadlines

The advertising deadline follows:

- May 3 for the June issue
- June 1 for July
- July 1 for August
- Aug. 2 for September
- Sept. 1 for October
- Oct. 1 for November,
- Nov. 1 for December

Troxler announces reimbursement program for quarantined H2A farmworkers

Employers that have farmworkers with valid H2A visas who must be quarantined during the 2021 growing season due to COVID-19 will be able to apply for assistance to offset quarantine expenses.

A total of \$2 million will be available through the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services COVID-19 Farmworker Quarantine Reimbursement program. The N.C. General Assembly approved the funding for this aid program, which comes from federal COVID-19 funds earmarked for North Carolina. “Farmworkers have always been critical to agriculture, but the pandemic has shown how essential a healthy workforce

is to agriculture and our food supply,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “While it is a priority for all farmworkers to get vaccinated, this program will enable employers to safely quarantine workers who test positive for COVID-19 and hopefully minimize spread to their coworkers and others.”

Under this program, employers that have farmworkers with valid H2A visas will be eligible for reimbursement of the cost of meals and lodging for the duration of the quarantine period, not to exceed the per diem rates for federal employees. The employer on record for the farmworker with a valid H2A visa may submit reimbursement

request on behalf of any farmworker requiring to be quarantined following a positive test for COVID-19, provided the employer covered the initial eligible expenses out-of-pocket on behalf of the farmworker. The program will be for expenses incurred from March 11, 2021 through the 2021 growing season.

The application period will open on April 14 and will continue through Dec. 15, 2021 or until program funds are exhausted. These funds are provided through CARES Act funding and subject to any changes to the federal legislation.

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in serious and substantial impacts on the

food supply chain, including migrant farm labor in North Carolina. The H2A program is a critical component in planting and harvesting of North Carolina commodities. This program will help offset the financial burden of quarantine accommodations for workers that test positive for COVID-19 in off-site locations.

Details regarding the NCDA&CS COVID-19 Farmworker Quarantine Reimbursement Program will be available at www.ncagr.gov/QuarantineReimbursementProgram.htm or contact H2Acovidprogram2021@ncagr.gov with any questions regarding this program.

Look for local strawberries as the season is under way

Spring signals the start of strawberry season in North Carolina, and local growers are optimistic about the 2021 season and anticipate a crop that should last through Memorial Day.

“The recent hard frost kept strawberry growers busy protecting the plants’ tender blooms, but farmers have reported that those efforts seem to have been successful and consumers will be able to find local berries,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “I enjoy seeing fresh North Carolina strawberries at pick-your-own farms, roadside stands, farmers markets and grocery stores. I know they will be the freshest and best tasting berries available.”

The N.C. Strawberry Association provides a listing of you-pick strawberry farms with contact information at [www.ncstrawberry.com/farm-](http://www.ncstrawberry.com/farm-locator)



locator. North Carolina ranks fourth nationally in strawberry production, growing 1,100 acres of strawberries annually.

Last year, the strawberry season began around the time the first COVID-19 case was diagnosed in North Carolina. Growers responded by taking additional measures to protect employees and consumers, including installing additional hand washing stations; providing hand sanitizers for employees and customers; requiring employees to wear disposable gloves while handling produce; and ensuring sick employees stay home.

In addition, several pick-your-own farms encouraged social distancing by limiting the number of rows that could be picked and limiting groups to 10 people or less. Many strawberry farms are continuing the practices started last year for this season.

From the tractor



Commissioner Troxler

Spring is such a busy time of year, and nowhere is that more evident than on a farm. There are crops to be planted, crops to be protected, markets to open, visitors to welcome, weather to watch and the list goes on and on. It’s one of the reasons I love farming – there’s a new challenge every day.

We’ve been busy in the department,

by Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler

too, working to set up Phase 3 of the Increasing Meat Processing Efficiency and Capacity grant program. You can find more information on this program on page 3 of the paper. This time around, we have \$2 million in grants and projects can also include value-added processing. May 14 is the deadline to apply..

Funding for all three phases of this program comes from federal CARES Act monies distributed to the state. Our goal is to help independent meat processing and seafood business increase their production or capacity, which in turns benefits the farmers and fishermen using these facilities. In the end, we hope to strengthen the availability of local meats and seafood. This gives consumer access to more local meats, provides more marketing opportunities for farmers and stimulates the local economy through jobs and product sales.

I have gotten a few reports back about improvements and additions that have been made in the initial phases of this program. Several businesses have reported that they are already seeing significant increases in production and sales, which is great news.

Pamlico Salts Oyster in Engelhard anticipates hiring more workers and doubling sales in 202, based on record weekly sales.

Bay Brothers Seafood in Plymouth purchased and sold 31,000 pounds of fish in February, which is double its expectations for the entire year.

Fresh Catch Seafood in Wanchese noted that the addition of a retail freezer has improved accessibility of product to retail customers. The company saw 86 new customers and 30 returning customers in February. Sales in February have also jumped significantly.

I am hopeful we will see even more increases in local sales and production as more consumers discovered the high quality of local meats and seafood.

If you are making your to-do list this spring, I’d remind you to add get a COVID vaccine if you have not already done so. Gov. Roy Cooper recently announced the rolling back of most restrictions beginning June 1, except for wearing masks. Gov. Cooper did indicated he would roll back the mask restriction if two-thirds of the state’s population was vaccinated.

Earlier, we announced the plan to open the State Fair in October and the Mountain State Fair. Getting vaccinated can help us all get to a point where we can begin some feelings of normalcy.

I encourage you to get the shot.

Agricultural Review

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Phase 3 of IMPEC grants offered

■ *Application deadline is May 14 for food processors*

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has opened the application period for the third phase of its Increasing Meat Production, Efficiency and Capacity (IMPEC) grant program, which is geared to independent state meat and seafood processing facilities.

“The COVID pandemic showed us vulnerabilities in the food supply chain and the need for local products to meet consumer demand,” said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. “We are already seeing benefits to agribusinesses, farmers and consumers from phase one and two of this program, and we want to build on that momentum. A total of \$6 million in grants will be available in this third phase, with a limit of \$400,000 per project.”

Funding for this cost-share program was approved by the N.C. General Assembly and comes from federal CARES Act money earmarked for North Carolina.

In addition to increasing production, efficiency and/or capacity, projects can also include value-added processing. Project categories can include equipment and infrastructure, contractual/consultation, labor; training and retention, and other identified needs.

To be eligible for grant funding, applicants must contract with independent livestock producers or seafood harvesters to process animals or seafood and must be state or federally inspected, or it must produce further processed meat products under state or federal inspection or be a USDA inspected processor of shelf-stable meat or meat products. Recipients must match \$1 in funds or services for every \$2 in grant funding. Cash or services must come from non-federal and/or state sources, and matching funds cannot be used as a match for any other federal or state cost-share project.

The grant application and required forms can be downloaded from the NCDA&CS website at www.ncagr.gov. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by close of business May 14.

For questions about the program in general, please contact Joe Hampton at 704-880-2488, Kelly Powell-McIver at 984-239-5548 or Sam Brake at 252-245-2667. For more information on the application process, please contact Allison Medlin at allison.medlin@ncagr.gov or call 919-693-2483.

Cheese production now central to 90-year old Marion dairy farm

Growing up, dairy farming was all Terry English knew. In 1800, his grandfather started farming cows, chickens, pigs and even a few apple trees. “It was mostly survival farming at the time,” Terry said, “he started with about four or five cows and had no idea that 90 years later we would still be here farming.” English Farmstead Cheese originally raised Jersey cattle but eventually switched to mostly Holsteins, due to their high milking yields. Today the farm has a herd of about 160 cattle.

A typical day on the farm starts around 4 a.m. with Terry milking and feeding the cattle. “We never get bored and it’s truly a family affair,” Terry said, “my dad still comes in every morning and cleans the barns for us while I need to do whatever needs to be done in the fields.” Similar to the morning chores, Terry’s afternoon also consists of milking and feeding the cattle.

Terry’s wife, Susan, however, spends her day in the cheese making and aging room. Four days a week you can find her here making their famous cheese products from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Milk is brought from the barn to the pasteurizing room within two to three hours of milking. “We have four cheese recipes, that I developed, that we use on a regular basis,” Susan said, “I taught myself how to make it as a hobby and it ended up being a mid-life crisis



Terry and Susan English are looking forward to reaching the 100th year of the farm’s operation.

turned right.”

Today, the farm sells about 10 varieties of chesses, with their best sellers being cheddar, cheese curds, and their personal variety, Buttercup. Products from their farm can be found at their farm stand on site in Marion as well as the Weaver Street Market and small retail stores in Asheville, Boone and Charlotte areas. Their

on-site farm stand is open two days a week, Friday and Saturday, and sells a variety of products from local farmers from Western N.C., including pork, eggs and beef.

Although the uncertainty, weather and labor can be challenging, Susan and Terry both experience immense joy from seeing a new calf being born and hearing customers compliment

their products. “It’s the intangible assets that make it worth it and keep us going,” Terry said. In addition to milking and cheese making, the English’s enjoy educating visitors to their farm on the dairy industry. “We take a lot of things for granted that people don’t know about our industry,” Susan said, “so we do a lot of teaching to inquiring customers

that visit our on-site farm stand.”

Terry’s biggest goal for the future is to keep the farm in operation until 2026 so it will have been in family operation for 100 years. When they are not farming, they enjoy taking the scenic route along the Blue Ridge Parkway or a quiet night at home with Hershey bars and wine.

Equine owners urged to vaccinate animals against EEE and WNV

Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler is encouraging equine owners to have their animals vaccinated against Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis and West Nile Virus.

“Mosquito-breeding season in North Carolina lasts from spring until the first frost and horses are at risk if not properly vaccinated,” Troxler said. “EEE is fatal 90 percent of the time in horses and WNV has a fatality rate of 30 percent. But, both diseases are preventable by vaccination.”

Last year, North Carolina saw its first case of EEE in late July. There were nine recorded cases of EEE in 2020.

State Veterinarian Dr. Doug Meckes advises equine owners talk to their veterinarians about an effective vaccination protocol to protect horses. The combination vaccination initially requires multiple injections for horses, mules and donkeys that have no prior vaccination history.

“Nine cases of EEE is a relatively high average for the year. Horse owners need to act now to vaccinate

their animals,” Troxler said.

Mosquitoes can breed in any puddle that lasts for more than four days, so removing any source of standing water can reduce the chance of exposing animals to WNV or EEE. Keeping horses in stalls at night, using insect screens and fans, and turning off lights after dusk can also help reduce exposure to mosquitoes. Insect repellants can be effective if used according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

Symptoms of EEE include impaired vision, aimless wandering,

head pressing, circling, inability to swallow, irregular staggering gait, paralysis, convulsions and death. Once a horse has been bitten by an infected mosquito, it may take three to 10 days for symptoms to appear.

Symptoms of WNV include fever, weakness or paralysis of hind limbs, impaired vision, head pressing, seizures and aimless wandering.

“If your horses or other equine animals exhibit any symptoms of EEE or WNV, contact your veterinarian immediately,” Meckes said.

People, horses and birds can become infected from a bite by a mosquito carrying the diseases, but there is no evidence that horses can transmit the viruses to other horses, birds or people through direct contact.

“It’s also a great time to make sure your animal is current on its rabies vaccination,” Troxler said. “In North Carolina, we see about five cases of rabies in livestock each year. Horses are naturally curious animals, which puts them at risk for a bite if a rabid animal gets through their fence line.”

Researchers looking at cigar wrapper tobacco in NC

Growing tobacco in North Carolina is nothing new, but tobacco that can sell for nearly \$6 per pound certainly is. The recent norm for the state’s traditional flue cured or burley varieties is close to \$2 per pound. However, some work at the state’s agricultural research stations means the jaw-dropping \$6 figure may become more than just fantasy for some North Carolina farmers.

Dr. Matthew Vann, a NCSU professor and tobacco extension specialist, is leading a research project that explores the possibility of growing expensive cigar wrapper tobacco in the state.

“We know there’s an increased demand in this type of tobacco, and we think demand may be outstripping the traditional production area,” Vann said.

That traditional growing area is the Connecticut River Valley (parts of Connecticut and Massachusetts) and south central Pennsylvania. In more recent years, growers in Kentucky and Tennessee have also grown the tobacco – using their experience in growing similar tobacco for snuff and chewing tobacco. With the price it garners and the need for more producers, it’s easy to understand why.

Vann said the idea to get North Carolina into the game started with Chad Moody, at the Mountain Research Station in Waynesville. In a conversation with Vann, Moody mentioned how tobacco was once a much larger part of the North Carolina landscape and economy and how the tobacco buyout and the market crumbling led many farmers to quit tobacco farming. However, Moody said he thought the cigar wrapper tobacco could be grown in the state, particularly the western part where it could be a good fit for smaller farms that have grown burley. Vann ran with the idea. The general thought was



Researchers with N.C. State University are exploring the potential for farmers to produce cigar wrapper tobacco, a product that can draw \$6 a pound. The tobacco used for cigar wrappers is similar to burley, but the finished leaves need to be thin and free of imperfections.

“why not us too in North Carolina?”

“We have a lot of knowledge and infrastructure, plus the research an extension to figure it out and help farmers understand and make a business out of it,” Vann said.

The tobacco used for cigar wrapping is a type of “dark tobacco” that’s specialized just for cigars. It has some similarities to burley tobacco.

“There is a lot of burley tobacco knowledge and equipment around,” said Tracy Taylor, the superintendent of

the Upper Mountain Research Station in Laurel Springs. “Dr. Vann started this project thinking that people who used to grow burley could maybe grow this as an alternative.”

While that idea isn’t farfetched, Taylor and Vann have learned just how different cigar wrapper tobacco and burley tobacco are. Taylor said the cigar wrapper tobacco can be harvested, hung, cured and graded a lot like burley, but the cigar wrapper tobacco is less forgiving. Burley

growers usually work to make leaves thick, heavy and leathery. The tobacco leaves used for cigar wrappers need to be thin without any imperfections.

“With burley we can go in and ‘grip and rip it’ and get it in the barn, but with this cigar tobacco you have to be more gentle because the quality is so important,” Taylor said. “We have to be a lot more careful about insect damage and such too.”

Taylor said there’s been a significant learning curve in figuring out how to

handle the cigar wrapper tobacco. While much of the equipment is the same as what’s used for burley tobacco, there’s been a need for a whole new mindset.

“It’s mostly just cultural practices that are different. It’s just not the same as burley,” Taylor said. “The first year we treated it like burley, and we learned a lot about things we needed to change. We’ve learned a lot about what we can tell farmers

(See Cigar wrappers, pg. 5)

Don’t harm the swarm! Bees are important to ag

Spring is upon us and the bees are buzzing – sometimes in places we don’t expect.

Encountering an unexpected swarm of bees can be a scary experience, but it doesn’t have to be a dangerous one. Simply by giving the bees the space they need and knowing who to call, you can avoid needless harm to both people and bees when discovering a swarm.

Bees swarm as part of their normal reproductive cycle, which is at its peak during April and May, said NCDA&CS Apiary Inspection Supervisor Don Hopkins.

“In order for a colony to reproduce, it needs to have a reproductive queen raise more reproductive daughters,” he said. “When the colony gets too crowded, the queen will leave the hive with most of her daughters to start a new colony, and that’s when you get a swarm.”

The daughters are the ones who choose the location for the new hive, marking the area with pheromones to signal to the rest of the colony that they have found a suitable spot. Hollow logs, open spaces in buildings or even old, abandoned beehives are just some of the locations they may choose, and once a consensus is built among the bees, they set off for their new locale.

Once the bees arrive at their new location, they will group up into a ball which Hopkins likened to a cluster of grapes. If you come across a swarm in an outdoor area like a forest, the right thing to do is simply leave them alone, Hopkins said.

“That would definitely be the best thing to do,” he said. “Once a swarm is settled like that in a cluster, they’re pretty calm unless they’re what we call a ‘dry swarm.’ That happens



Call a beekeeper if you come across a bee swarm in a place it cannot stay.

when the swarm has clustered but has not found a nest site. The swarm will produce honeycomb at that spot and defend it as if it is its new nest site.”

Of course, sometimes bee swarms crop up in places where they cannot be simply left to their own devices. Swarms have been known to nest in homes, commercial buildings and even inside vehicles, so it’s a good idea to know who to

call just in case you happen upon a group of busy bees in an inconvenient spot.

“In that case, you would want to call people like myself,” Hopkins said. “Most extensions will have contacts with beekeepers, especially here in North Carolina where just about every county has a beekeepers association. I usually refer people to the secretary of their local beekeepers association, and then he or she can let someone in the association know about the swarm, where it is and how high off the ground it is.”

Bees are a valuable part of the ecosystem, so beekeepers take care to keep them as safe as possible while removing hives. If the hive is close enough to the ground, the beekeeper can simply shake them into a prepared hive box, one which has ideally been used before so that it carries some of the pheromones which attract the bees. Once the swarm has been collected into the hive, the beekeeper will look to relocate it to a preferred nest site where the bees can exist safely without disrupting or being disrupted by humans.

Hopkins reiterated that swarms are largely benign, and leaving them alone is the easiest way to avoid any kind of injury they could cause. When left on their own, they can even be fun to watch, he said.

“A swarm that hasn’t yet settled is a pretty dramatic thing to watch. You’ll have several thousand individuals in essentially a cloud,” he said. “They’ll fly around and then eventually shadow on a tree and gather into that cluster. It’s a pretty neat thing to see.”

To learn more about the NCDA&CS Apiary program, visit <https://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/plant/apiary/index.htm>.

New sweet potato facility aids ongoing research

At first glance, the new building at the Horticultural Crops Research Station may not seem that remarkable. It's a light beige metal building, 60 feet wide, 100 feet long. It's distinguished by its reddish-maroon trim. Otherwise, it's a near twin to the older building just beside it.

What it lacks in pizzazz, the new building makes up for in its function and its value to the sweet potato research done on the station outside Clinton. It has more than doubled the station's sweet potato storage capacity, according to station superintendent Hunter Barrier. The space also allows for more elbow room for researchers, their teams and the station employees.

"There's a lot of sorting and going through sweet potato samples and seeing what project leaders want to plant," Barrier said. "So we need room to get in there and sort everything out. We have more room to work now."

In addition to the open workspace, there are also separate storage rooms in the new building. One holds large wooden bins of sweet potatoes while the other holds racks of plastic tubs – called "lugs" – filled with sweet potatoes. Both rooms have temperature and humidity controls so they can be used to store sweet potatoes for different purposes in the research process.

With the new building, the Horticultural Crops Research Station now has three sweet potato storage buildings. The last one was built in the early 80's, and for several years now it's been home to a sophisticated optical sorting machine for sweet potatoes. It takes up a considerable amount of space, especially when it's in use. That has limited the floor space for other research activity. Now the two older buildings can be used for more long term storage and flex space as needed.

N.C. State University researcher Kenneth Pecota also said another reason space has gotten tighter with the old buildings is that researchers have had more sweet potatoes on their hands in recent years. They've needed to grow more, handle more, store more and ship more sweet potatoes to commercial processors. Those processors have been interested in testing more varieties for sweet potato fries. An

(See Sweet potato, pg. 8)



Pictured above, the new sweet potato facility at the Horticultural Crops Research Station in Clinton has more than doubled the station's storage capacity and created more workspace for researchers and staff. At left, sweet potatoes are sorted and placed in bins.

Grandparents farm continues to produce for Dover Vineyards

Although most of her family grew up farming, Elizabeth Dover never pictured herself as a farmer until she saw a special on PBS on winemaking that piqued her interest. "Most of my family, including my grandparents, grew up farming but I was the exception," Elizabeth said, "but I enjoy being outside, and when I saw the PBS special, I figured a vineyard would be a good way to utilize my grandparents land." So, in 2009, Dover Vineyards in Concord was born, featuring Chambourcin and Villard Blanc grapes. "I take pride in making wines that compete with other regions of the world," Elizabeth said, "and both of these grapes produce a very high quality wine and are highly disease resistant."

In addition to their seven acres of vineyard, the farm also grows six acres of various vegetables, including radishes, squash, tomatoes and kale. "That very first year I grew way too many radishes," Elizabeth said, "in fact, we couldn't sell them all, so I ended up eating radishes for a month straight. Needless to say I found a variety of new ways to use them!"

A typical day on the farm varies from season to season and involves a lot of responsibilities that Elizabeth classifies as less than glorious. "We weed a lot around both of our vines and our vegetables because we do not use any herbicides," she said, "I hope to one day minimize our amount of weeding and mowing, but right now it is necessary to produce the high quality product that we promise to our customers."

Dover Vineyards partners with Childress Vineyards to crush their grapes and make their wines. "I worked as a winemaker for a few years at facilities across North Carolina so I knew the people at Childress fairly well," Elizabeth said, "and when I decided to make the switch from winemaker to vineyard owner, they were more than willing to accommodate us by allowing us to use their facility to crush our grapes." Many of Elizabeth's weekends are spent at wine tasting events and farmers markets interacting with customers and selling the wine she is incredibly proud of.

Although finding employees to help her with the farm work can be difficult, Elizabeth says she takes immense pride in both eating and selling her products at the end of the day. "Having an entire meal in front of you that was grown from your own hard work, or the hard work of farmers near you, is incredibly rewarding," she said.

Products from Dover Vineyards can be found at Local Loaf and The Common Market in Charlotte. For those interested in purchasing wine from Dover Vineyards, Elizabeth recommends visiting the farm for a tasting and purchasing your bottle directly on site. "When you come to the farm for a tasting, you have the opportunity to try a variety of our wines, figure out which one is your favorite, and buy it directly from the vineyard," she said. Her favorite is the 2017 Villard Blanc because it has a well-balanced citrus flavor. "It's distinctive but not offensive," she said.

They also offer several other events

on the farm that will give you an excuse to visit, including yoga and cooking classes. "Our farm shelter provides a very relaxing atmosphere beside a koi pond with lilies," Elizabeth said. "All of our cooking classes feature farm-to-table ingredients and every yoga class ends with a glass of wine."

She believes eating local is incredibly important not only because it shows support for our neighbors, but also because, "people don't realize how vulnerable they are when they are disconnected from their food source."

In the future, Elizabeth hopes to build a tasting room on site at the vineyard where she can continue to provide high-quality wine to her customers.



May AgroTips

Spring and summer are the best times to take soil samples from established lawns and gardens.

It is always a good idea to take soil samples several weeks before planting a garden or renovating a lawn; then if lime is needed, you have time to apply it properly and let it begin to work before planting. For established plantings, spring and summer are good times to submit samples because there is no peak-season fee. Reports are usually posted online within 10 days.

The soil lab urges clients to enter and submit soil sample information online via the PALS website instead of filling out a paper sample information form. The online option sends sample information to the lab electronically and helps prevent data entry errors and duplications. A printed copy of the electronic *Soil Sample Information* form must be submitted with the samples. Links on the Agronomic Division homepage — www.ncagr.gov/agronomi — provide detailed instructions.

Samples must be submitted in NCDA&CS soil boxes, which are available from all county Cooperative Extension offices and from the Agronomic Division office in Raleigh. Reports are posted online in PALS.

Use tissue test results to improve crop production.

For high-value crops, in particular, plant tissue analysis is a valuable tool for optimizing monetary inputs and yield. It is a way to monitor the effectiveness of an ongoing fertilization program. It is a way to identify existing or potential nutrient problems. It can also be a way to gauge plant readiness for harvest.

The part of the plant to be sampled and the time of sampling vary by crop. Visit www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/pictorial.htm for specific sampling instructions for several major crops. Samples can be dropped off at the NCDA&CS Plant/Waste/Solution/Media lab in Raleigh, mailed through the U.S. Postal Service, or shipped via UPS or Fed Ex. Basic tissue testing costs \$5 per sample, and results are typically posted on the NCDA&CS Agronomic Division website [www.ncagr.gov/agronomi] two business days after samples arrive at the lab. Special tests to measure chloride, molybdenum or petiole nitrates cost an extra \$2 per test per sample.

Four stores pay penalties for price scanning errors

The N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Standards Division has collected fines from four stores in Scotland and Wake Counties because of excessive price-scanner errors.

"The price on the shelf and the price at the register should match," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "Stores have a responsibility to make sure their pricing is accurate, and most stores pass inspection. Ones with errors face fines until they come into compliance."

The department conducts periodic, unannounced inspections of price-scanner systems in businesses to check for accuracy between the prices advertised and the prices that ring up at the register. If a store has more than a 2-percent error rate on overcharges, inspectors discuss the findings with the store manager and conduct a more intensive follow-up inspection at a later date. Undercharges are also reported, but do not count against a store. Consumers who would like to file a complaint about scanner errors they encounter, can call the Standards Division at 919-707-3225.

Penalties are assessed if a store fails a follow-up inspection. In addition to the penalties paid, the store will be subject to re-inspection every 60 days from the last inspection until it meets the 2-percent-or-less error rate. Additional penalties may be assessed if a store fails a re-inspection. Following is are the civil penalty that were recorded in the first quarter of 2021:

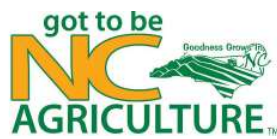
(Scotland) Tractor Supply at 1690 South Main Street in Laurinburg

has paid \$375 in penalties. An initial inspection in January found a 10 percent error rate based on five overcharges in a 50-item lot. A follow up inspection in March found a 3 percent error rate based on nine overcharges in a 300-item lot. The store will be reinspected.

(Wake) Advance Auto Parts at 7201 Glenwood Ave. in Raleigh has paid \$525 in penalties. An initial inspection in October 2020 found a five percent error rate based on five overcharges in a 100-item lot. A follow up inspection in November 2020 found a three percent error rate based on nine overcharges in a 300-item lot. The store passed inspection in January.

Family Dollar at 100 Raleigh Blvd. in Raleigh has paid \$5,765 in penalties. An initial inspection in October 2020 found a ten percent error rate based on five overcharges in a 50-item lot. A follow up inspection in November 2020 found an 8.67 percent error rate based on 26 overcharges in a 300-item lot. The store passed inspection in January.

Family Dollar at 3605 Amber Lane in Raleigh has paid \$1,770 in penalties. An initial inspection in October 2020 found a ten percent error rate based on five overcharges in a 50-item lot. A follow up inspection in November 2020 found an 4.33 percent error rate based on 13 overcharges in a 300-item lot. The store passed inspection in January.



Cigar wrappers

(Continued from pg. 3)

about how to handle it."

That's just the type of information Vann has hoped to gather in the research. Now as the project enters year three, Vann hopes to gather even more information to help potential growers. The first two years of the project were mostly at the Mountain and the Upper Mountain research stations. That will continue this year, along with the Oxford Tobacco Research Station and the Central Crops Research Station in Clayton.

"We feel pretty good that we can deliver the quality needed to make the product that's desired, but it'll come down to educating growers about how to do it," Vann said. "Our goal is to grow a perfect leaf, and you have to handle them with a velvet glove to make that happen."

It's a labor-intensive process, but there seems to be financial promise for farmers willing to learn and focus on the cigar wrapper tobacco specialty.

"I think we still have a lot to learn, but at the same time I think it's already getting a lot of traction," Taylor said. "There are tobacco companies looking for contracts. If they're clipping at our heels that means we have work to do."

In fact, Taylor said he knows cigar makers are looking for more growers, and they're already considering any North Carolina farmers willing to jump onboard. He said a few farmers in the state have signed small contracts.

"That's encouraging when we're in our second year and companies are already trying to get growers to commit with them," Taylor said with a bit of cautious optimism. "There's a chance to make more money but you have to be really good at what you do to cash in on that."

Moody knew that growing the perfect



tobacco for cigars wrappers could be demanding, but if anyone was up for the challenge – and the reward – he thought it would be western North Carolina's small farmers.

"I think it could be a perfect crop for farmers who historically grew burley tobacco," Moody said. "Due to our farms being smaller here in the western part of North Carolina, farmers are able to pay attention to the details, which is what it takes to grow good wrapper tobacco."

Vann expects to continue the

research for another two or three more years – refining production practices and testing varieties for yield and quality along the way. This year, his research team in NCSU's Department of Crop and Soil Sciences received a \$60,000 grant from the New and Emerging Crops Program of NCDA&CS.

"If we did not receive that funding we wouldn't be able to do some of the things we plan to do this summer," Vann said.

Classified Advertising

Ads are run free for N.C. residents & can be submitted by mail to 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1001; online at www.AgReview.org; or by fax to 919-733-5047. Ads **must** include name, address including zip code, phone number including area code, and **price or price range for every item** being sold.

Deadline for each issue is noon on the first working day of the month prior to publication. Limit is 30 words, editor reserves right to edit or reject ads. Limit 2 ads/person in different categories.



Bees, Supplies & Services For Sale

NOTICE

N.C. law requires a permit to sell honey bees in the state, with the following exceptions: sale of less than 10 hives in a calendar year, a one-time going-out-of-business sale of less than 50 hives, or the renting of bees for pollination purposes or to gather honey. Contact Don Hopkins, state apiarist, NCDA&CS, 1060 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001.

Overwintered 5-frame nucs, pro-nuc box, \$145. Jeff Telander, Elon 919-618-8094, telander@gmail.com.

Honey extractor, 18-frame radial, 115v deep or shallow, GC, p/u only, \$1,200. Sam Frogge, Statesville 704-929-6868.

BEES

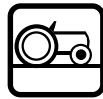
Complete hive w/bees & queen, \$350/hive; more than 1, \$250/hive. Bob Mathis, Tobaccoville 336-575-2341.

4-frame hand crank extractor, uncapping tanks, filter tanks, elec knife, other, \$500; observation hive, \$100. Cole Russing, Raleigh 919-818-6200.

Spring nucs & hives w/ marked open bred Italian queen, 5 & 10 frame, med & deep, \$125-\$200; other items. James Henderson, Mint Hill 980-278-6296.

3 lb. pkg Italian bees w/ mated queen, \$120; marked queens, \$5 extra; nucs avail mid-May, \$170. John Pledger, Trinity 336-475-5137.

5-frame nucs, waxed cardboard nuc box, w/Martha Carpenter mite mauler/Carniolan cross queen, \$170. Sam Bolick, Concord 704-795-3900.



Equipment For Sale

MF 35 tractor, gas, completely restored, LN rubber, show quality, everything works, \$5,500. Howard Cline, Maiden 704-483-3612.

JD 2440 tractor w/loader, GC, new tires, \$9,500; 1974 MF 135 diesel, ps, 6-spd, GC, \$4,500. Garner Jarrell, Mt. Airy 336-648-4288.

MF #12 sq baler, \$250. Joe Johnson, Mocksville 336-998-3483.

1956 Farmall 100 tractor, scrape blade, bush hog, disc, tillage, doub turn plow, layoff, \$4,500. Margaret Burgess, N. Wilkesboro 336-667-4775.

Bush hog bedder, 2-row, GC, \$600; NH 450 sickle mower, \$950. Doug Dodson, Madison 336-871-2798.

JD 8000 drill, 14 doub disc, \$2,100; Sitrex 8-wheel rake, \$1,900. Marion Welborn, Boonville 336-816-4700.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Frontier RT1142 rotavator, 3 pt, \$1,200. Greg Lowe, Salisbury 704-239-5083, text only.

5 ft. bush hog, \$350; cults, \$125; 1-bottom plow, \$185; potato plow, \$100, boom pole, \$125; other items. James Isley, Julian 336-263-1958.

Ford 8N tractor, runs, good lift, good tires, \$1,300 obo. Charlie Lavender, Trinity 336-425-4448.

1952 JD B, excel sheet metal, \$3,000; w/3 pt hitch, \$3,600; 1952 JD hyd cyl, \$350. Barry Lindley, Pittsboro 919-742-4009.

NH 277 sq baler w/thrower, \$2,500; Cat D7 dozer, elec start, \$9,500; NH 55 rake, \$1,350. William Long, Mebane 336-376-6603.

1972 IH Cub cadet, 42 in. cut, 12hp, new seat, new starter/generator, factory manual, \$700. David Carter, Rocky Mount 252-443-7723.

NH 570 baler, wire tie, \$4,500. John Lee, Bear Grass 252-809-7412.

1967 MF 135, GC, gas, 2wd, 2,300 hrs., \$4,500. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

Befco tiller, 54 in., \$675. Miles Little, Midland 704-791-1438.

4 Cole spring shank cult feet, cults, plow pts, corn sheller, \$5-\$250. Neal Lee, Advance 336-998-8922, nights.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Land Pride bush hog, 8 ft., GC, \$2,400; NH BR740 hay roller, 4 ft. p/u, VGC, kept in dry, \$7,500. Richard Biggerstaff, Maiden 828-381-2220.

Cub cadet 2082, new 20hp Kohler eng, hyd trans, 54 in. cut, tilt wheel, front blade, \$1,950. Brad Needham, Carthage 910-295-7747.

NH 316 sq baler, EC, sheltered, \$6,500; 55 gal sprayer, 3 pt, \$500; 3 pt fert spreader, \$250. Gayle Hoyle, Crouse 704-732-7191.

Magnetos, different makes & types, some w/gears, \$75 & up. Bill Payne, Madison 336-707-8840, 6-8 p.m.

1979 Itnl Cub, 4 cyl, gas, disc harrow, disc turning plow, belly mounted leveling blade, cults, \$3,200 nego. Carter LeFevers, Morganton 828-413-0121.

Farmall Cub tractor, \$2,000; Farmall super A, \$3,000. Jim Brown, Charlotte 704-309-4063.

Kuhn disc mower, GMD 600, 7 ft. 10 in. cut, EC, \$3,975; Kasco sod drill, 72 in., 9 seed drop, EC, \$6,500. Barry Nesbitt, Salisbury 704-642-0024.

1952 Ford 8N side dist tachometer, restored 4 yrs ago, w/box scrape, \$3,200. Ann Furr, Rockwell 704-798-3460.

FARM EQUIPMENT

1952 8N red belly tractor, \$1,400. J.A. Cox, Kernersville 336-813-0376.

2017 JD 495 rnd baler, lightly used on sm farm, \$17,500. Joe Greble, Richfield 704-433-1774.

NH 54A bale thrower, fits 268, 269, 273 & 275 balers, \$375. Doug Isley, Reidsville 336-347-9106.

JD 4620, \$11,500; Krause finishing harrow, \$3,000; Frontier grooming mower, \$6,500; other equip. Rob Wallace, Charlotte 704-545-3773, nights.

2015 Claas Variant 380RC baler, 4x6 rnd, net wrap, endless belts, recutter for silage or dry, \$27,000. Hal Chase, Sanford 919-498-4043.

NH 273 sq baler, EC, field ready, \$3,000. Dale Pardue, Hamptonville 336-478-2038.

Kubota L3010 diesel tractor, 143 hrs., ropa equipped, \$12,000. Johnny Elliott, Harmony 704-614-5006.

Sitrex 4-basket tedder, \$6,300; Rhino V-rake, \$5,000. Ronnie Overman, Liberty 336-380-6571.

Blue Giant hyd lift, hd, 2 lrg pistons, 4 ft. x 8 ft. solid steel floor, \$1,500 obo. Steve Parsons, Wilkesboro 336-973-4834.

3 pt equip, disc, \$250; box blade, \$250; bush hog, \$500; rake, \$300. Chris Starling, Clinton 910-214-0008.

IH fast hitch plows, 1 & 2 bottom, 3 pt, \$250-\$400; JD 4-bottom plow, all new parts, \$700. Michael Nardo, Jackson Springs 910-281-3522.

1944 Farmall A, RG, pto, rear wgts, cults & hillers, good metal & paint, \$1,550. John Lawrence, Winston-Salem 336-341-1588.

MF 71 sickle mower, 7 ft., side mounted, 3 spare blades, assrtd spare parts, manuals, \$1,850. Ron Gilleland, Maiden 828-461-4365.

Long disc harrow, 8 ft. 3 in. wide, 6 ft. long, 20 discs, \$750. Tim Elliott, West Jefferson 336-575-4708.

Itlnl 303 combine, 13 ft. grain header, no corn header, FC, \$1,300; JD 1240 4-row planter, \$1,000. Paul Neill, Mooresville 704-706-7467.

JD 557 baler, mega wide, \$18,000; NH rake, \$2,000. Terry Kennedy, Sparta 336-200-1165 or 372-8773.

Troy Bilt garden tiller, elec start, 20 in. tilling width, \$1,500; Kubota B-2150 tractor, 4wd, 3 pt, w/equip, \$14,000. C.T. Edmiston, Charlotte 704-597-0264.

2 MF 39 planters, 2-row, \$400/both; (4) trip bottom plows, \$250 ea; 4-row Danish tine cult, \$800; other equip. Charles Bowers, Clinton 910-592-6792.

Deutz tedder, 2-basket, pull type, \$500. Mike Gibbs, Mill Spring 828-774-3197.

1964 Farmall 140 w/equip, \$2,900; 27-V sickle mower, 6 ft., needs tire, \$300; IH McCormick Deering T50 baler, needs tires, \$1,100. Ron Foust, Whitsett, 336-697-1279.

JD loader frames for 521/542, fits 5000 series, \$600 obo; skid loader metal tracks, Logering brand, LN, \$1,000 obo. Doug Mills, Wingate 704-221-0833.

FARM EQUIPMENT

7 used JD rnd baler belts, 8 in. wide, \$50 ea. Emory Carland, Mills River 828-691-6397.

Fiberglass nitrogen tank, 8,000 gal, \$1,200; 500 gal plastic tank, \$225; JD 6-row squeeze pump, \$250; other items. Jerry Hare, Mocksville 336-971-3038.

MF 1100, 4,893 hrs., pto, lrg post hole digger, 9 & 12 in. augers; Muratori MH205 rototiller, 80 in. width, \$9,750/all. David Slater, Tryon 828-817-2169.

JD 918 flex header, GC, good poly, needs new auger fingers, \$3,000 obo. Scott Turner, Lawndale 704-472-5767, call or text.

Mix-Mill CX mixer/grinder, setup w/3 input augers incldng motors, \$1,500; grain bins avail. Marlowe Mitchell, Taylorsville 828-446-5575.

MF 360 diesel tractor, 6 ft. bush hog, front bucket lift, not attached, 560 hrs., \$15,000 firm. James Faulk, Mebane 336-263-7572.

NH 56 rake, GC, \$1,500; Cub front wheel wgts, \$125. Jimmy Womble, Chapel Hill, 919-812-0832.

NH 273 baler, \$2,000; boom pole, \$65; NH tobacco planter, \$350. Kenneth Chilton, Pilot Mtn 336-374-2410 or 399-1973.

Farmall super A, 1950s era, \$4,000 firm. Jeff Farmer, Wilson 252-296-6913.

Gehl 1870 rnd baler, 5x6, VGC, \$4,500. Grady Draughn, Yadkinville 336-468-7889 or 468-2336.

David Bradley 5751 garden tractor, 2-wheel, 5hp Briggs eng, disc, harrow, mower, lister, cult, manuals, \$2,850. Sonny Blanchard, Sanford 919-353-1550.

1999 JD 4200 tractor, front end loader, 4wd, 600 hrs., \$9,000. Billy Breeden, Haw River 919-636-0210.

1993 Ford tractor, GC, good tires, 2 remotes, 1,650 hrs., \$7,900. Jerrold Bowman, Mt. Airy 336-789-3250.

JD 336 sq baler, field ready, \$2,500. B.R. Ferguson, Charlotte 704-545-6237.

Mule drawn plows, drill, turn plow, planters, \$150-\$300. J.A. Greene, Kings Mtn 980-522-5752.

NH 478 haybine, shed kept, \$1,500. Larry Davis, Laurel Springs 336-359-8136.

Grouser steel tracks for skid steer, off 10-16.5 tires, \$750. Todd Fries, Gold Hill 704-202-4281.

2011 NH HM234 disc mower, 5 ft., GC, minor cosmetic wear, used last season, \$4,200 cash. Bob Pacillas, Mt. Ulla 704-641-0175.

H&H custom sprayer, trailer mount, 200 gal tank, self-powered, 5hp B&S motor, 26 ft. booms, \$3,000. Tom Glendinning, Pittsboro 919-545-0880.

Itlnl 244 compact tractor, w/72 in. Sitrex finish mower, both VGC, sheltered, \$5,500. Donald Jones, Mocksville 336-998-5384.

Shaver HD-8 post driver, 3 pt, \$900; Eurospand S260-L fert/lime spreader, pto, kept covered, \$300. Craig Cooper, Wake Forest 919-414-6923.

Steiger Bearcat tractor, not running, \$7,500 obo; hyd press baler, \$5,000 obo; Super A parts, \$25 & up; other. Robert Humbles Jr., Ayden 252-746-6838.

JD X-750, 25hp diesel, EC, orig owner, \$8,500. Bobby Miller, Norwood 336-362-3342.

FARM EQUIPMENT

JD or AC rear tractor wheels, 24.5 x 32, 10-ply, 1/3 tread, tires, rims, cast centers, fits rnd axle, \$2,000. Robert Humbles Sr., Ayden 252-746-6576.

NH 7635 cab tractor, 4x4, heat/air, w/front end loader, \$23,000. Charles Franklin, Lenoir 828-430-1881.

1950 Farmall M, not running, has rare 1 wheel on front, \$2,000; 1975 Case 222 lawn tractor, not running, \$600. Larry Hudson, Mebane 919-928-6086.

JD 1219 haybine, 9 ft. cut, GC, shed kept, ready to mow, \$1,200. Andy Lutz, Dallas 704-913-0510.

Itlnl Farmall Cub, w/cult, turning plow, \$1,950. Roy Duncan, Pleasant Garden 336-674-5973.

1947 Farmall Cub, new clutch, disc cult, sheltered, GC, \$1,800; 60 in. Woods belly mower for Cub, \$500. Harvey Poole, Charlotte 704-241-1664.

JD 348 sq baler, EC, \$8,000; 1952 JD MT, good sheet metal & tires, \$2,500. Johnny Bradley, Rutherfordton 828-245-7515.

Farmall Cub tractor, garden ready, set up for cultivation, \$2,000 nego; elec grain crimper, \$500. Doug Poe, Apex 919-215-5401.

Fuerst manure spreader, pto, 8 ft. x 3 ½ ft., \$1,100. Nich Nichols, Fairview 828-776-0261.

Spike tooth harrow, 10 ft., 3 pt, \$795. Russ Hanes, Glendale Springs 828-406-6365.

NH 472 haybine, \$2,200; 84 in. loader bucket, fits Case 580, others, \$600; 60 in. finishing mower, \$800. Johnny Sowers, Lexington 336-239-3020.

Gill HBL 84-2 scrape blade, 7 ft., slightly bent, otherwise GC, \$450. David Pearsall, Snow Camp 336-376-9431.

Ring drag, hd steel links, 6 ft. x 8 ft., \$300. K. Downs, Wake Forest 919-414-5108.

Sm manure spreader, H & S brand, 3 ft. x 31 in., alum, pull behind 4-wheeler or sm lawn tractor, \$400. Mike Foye, Trinity 336-861-3313.

2004 Farm Pro 2420 tractor, 2wd, diesel, good lift & tires, 149 hrs., GC, extra equip avail, \$2,000. Robert Johnson, Kernersville 336-788-8402.

Taylor-Way 24-disc harrow, pull type, \$1,700; grain box & trailer, \$300; 2-bottom plows, \$250. J. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.



Equipment Wanted

Backhoe, med size, 4-way front bucket. H.E. Bruce, Hamlet 910-582-3695.

Tractor tire, 12-4-28, serviceable. Jack Matthews, Charlotte 704-846-1903.

Cockshutt 20 or CO-OP E2 tractor; cultivator/side dresser parts for these tractors. Larry O'Barr, Gibsonville 336-697-0754.

Hd wood splitter, 4-way splitting wedge, greater than 37-tons splitting force, horz & vert, EC. Brent Lineberger, Raleigh 919-815-6789.

JD CX gator, any cond; doesn't have to run, body doesn't matter, need the transaxle. Tom Gale, Liberty 336-339-1070.

Factory fork attach & bucket for Long 5320 front end loader; Long quick attach, not skid steer. Gary Michael, Lexington 336-239-3717.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

Vermeer 605D baler for parts. Bennie Ward, Lexington 336-689-5336.

Used peripheral litter saver, or 1 for parts, GC. Ritchie Bowman, Taylorsville 828-612-0787.

Ford 309 corn planter plates; corn, beans, sorghum & filler plates; Ford 309 corn planters for parts. Charles Chamelin, Kernersville 336-769-4418.

Farmall tobacco setter/transplanter, single pt, fast hitch. Steve Clark, N. Wilkesboro 336-984-1183.

Used tracks & pads for Cat 955H track loader. David Arron, Snow Camp 336-212-5943 or 213-5537.

Pre-1960 AC parts tractors, models B, C, WC; cults, plows, side dresser, planter assemblies. Rick Coor, Goldsboro 919-738-7638.

2 rear tractor tires, 12.4 x 24. Denny Barney, Mocksville 336-909-5180.



Farmland For Sale

Land for sale must consist of at least 3 acres and be used for agricultural purposes, i.e. cultivation, raising livestock and/or other farm commodities. Advertisers must indicate use of land.

40 ac Randolph co, 60% timber, 40% grown over fields, 2 creeks, \$199,000. Jim Wright, Asheboro 336-803-0627 or Bob Wright, 336-953-0313.

53 achwy 87 E Elizabethtown, rd frontage, high elevation, close to beaches; can divide sm ac, \$250,000. Thomas Andrews, Lumberton 910-827-3563.

36 ac Gaston co, mostly bottom land, good for crops/pasture, lots of rd & water frontage, \$175,000. Jacob Rhyne, Dallas 704-264-4063.

20 ac Rowan co, wooded, paved rd frontage, \$180,000; 30 ac Davidson co, paved rd frontage, \$300,000. Eric Wilson, Salisbury 704-202-4875.

29 ac Cumberland co, fenced & cross fenced, estab pastures, catch lots, working chute, home, \$350,000. Bill Dunlap, Roseboro 910-988-2941.



Farmland Wanted

Farmland to lease for deer hunting in Piedmont area; responsible, ref avail. Jim Bumgarner, Kernersville 336-338-1315.

Land to lease for deer hunting, w/in 1 hr. drive of Lexington. David Watterson, Lexington 336-989-8829.

Land to lease for hog hunting, mostly bowhunting. Jerry Alcon, Gibsonville 336-684-4547.

10-100 ac Guilford, Randolph, Davidson, Rockingham, Forsyth co, for farm/homestead; wooded or partially cleared. Jonathan Edwards, Jamestown 336-253-8453.

Land for feral swine hunting, Sampson, Anson, Davie, Haywood, Montgomery or Randolph co. A.C. Shores, Thurmond 336-874-2962.

Land to lease for dove hunting, gundog training, Forsyth or surrounding co. Randall Patterson, Winston-Salem 336-528-1074 or Bill Cowan, 336-406-6007.

FARMLAND WANTED

Land to lease for deer & turkey hunting, Guilford, Rockingham, Caswell or Stokes co. Aaron Stutts, High Point 336-259-5286.



Farm Labor For Sale

Vert & horz mowing, ponds, property lines, shooting lanes; food plots, plowing, \$65/hr. + deliv. Roger McKenzie, Jackson Springs 910-528-2293.

Pasture cleanup, bush hogging, down tree/brush removal, gravel driveway repair, other labor, \$60/hr. DeVane Williard, Randleman 336-362-6242.

Farm fencing, woven wire w/wooden posts, board, other types, \$6.15/ft. labor or less. David Watterson, Lexington 336-989-8829.

Electric fence box repair, afw, tsc, ssc, parmak, \$15/hr. Bobby Nichols, N. Wilkesboro 336-927-2850.

Custom baling w/inline Massey baler & bale baron, in Bessemer City area, \$1.25/bale. Lacey Robinson, Bessemer City 704-460-3213.



Hay & Grain For Sale

Hay, in shed, never wet, 4x4, \$35; 4x5, \$40. Phillip Cole, Burlington 336-264-4143 or Preston, 447-5593.

2 y/o hay, 4x5, \$15/bale. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

Fescue, 4x5 rnd, no rain, sheltered, on pallets, net wrapped, \$40-\$45/bale. Rick Ingram, Greensboro 336-420-9253.

Mixed orchard grass, 2019 cut, 4x4 rnd, \$30/bale. Noel McCraw, Hendersonville 828-808-5803.

2021 orchard grass, \$8/sq bale; fescue for horses, sheep, goats, \$7/bale; fescue, \$30/rnd bale. Barry Lindley, Pittsboro 919-742-4009.

Orchard grass, horse quality, 45-50 lbs., \$6.50/sq bale; discount for over 100. Kenneth Chilton, Pilot Mtn 336-374-2410 or 399-1973.

Wheat straw, \$3/bale. George Underwood, Elon 336-380-5984.

Orchard grass/fescue horse hay, \$35/rnd bale; orchard grass horse hay, \$5/sq bale. Johnny Sowers, Lexington 336-239-3020.

2021 horse hay, in barn, \$5/sq bale; in field, \$4/sq bale. Vernon Hill, Mt. Pleasant 980-621-5091.

Horse hay, orchard grass/alfalfa & straight alfalfa, 50 lb. bales, \$10 & up. Derek Teague, Catawba 828-446-6111 or teaguecattlefarm@yahoo.com.

Wheat straw, sm sq bales, \$4/bale. Eugene Bunn, Spring Hope 252-903-9980.

Fescue/orchard grass, suitable for horses, \$4.25/sq bale. Sylvia Reid, Welcome 336-731-4015.

Horse quality hay, deliv avail, \$35/rl. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

Orchard grass mix, \$5/sq bale. J. Lloyd Mabe, Danbury 336-703-8232.



Hay & Grain Wanted

Barley straw; must be barley. Dale Brown, Statesville 704-450-4477.



Horses & Supplies For Sale

PLEASE NOTE: All equine 6 mos. or older must have a current negative Coggins test. Advertisers must supply the accession number of test, the name of lab doing the test, the date of test and results for each equine advertised.

New Rocking R mule saddle, 16 in. seat, \$700 firm. Ronnie Franklin, Morganton 828-217-1901.

Horse cart, homemade, needs tires, \$150. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

Horse boarding, stables, tack room, pasture, places to ride, \$150/horse. Joe Snow, Thurmond 336-648-5997.

Kincade English saddle, LN, 17 or 17 ½ seat, med tree, used little, \$250. Woody Ross, Graham 336-525-6754.

Lrg horse barn for rent, 180 ft., 8 stalls, riding rink, 6 ac pasture, fencing, inclds water, \$450/mo; optional mobile home. Dianne Watterson, Lexington 240-498-0733.

Child's Cambridge English saddle, 14 in., \$75; child's western pony saddle, 12 in., \$95; other items. Beverly Billings, Rougemont 941-376-2890.

Pasture boarding, \$125/mo/horse; wagons, \$750 & \$2,750. Paul Waddell, Ramseur 336-879-3158.

1994 4-Star 2-horse trailer, slant load, gooseneck, all alum, heat/ac, dressing room, \$9,000 obo. Melvin King, Mebane 919-563-5660 or 303-981-8829.

Denny Watkins roping saddle, 15.5 in. seat, rode less than a doz times, \$1,200. Darryl Paschal, Greensboro 336-362-5788.

Trail saddle by Tucker River Plantation, LNC, 16.5 in. seat, trail stirrups, fenders, trail bridle, \$1,200. K. Downs, Wake Forest 919-414-5108.

Draft horse pleasure cart, 2-wheel, Amish made, \$1,000; misc horse drawn equip, \$25 & up. Doug Poe, Apex 919-215-5401.

H&H western saddle, 15.5 in. seat; Tex-Tan western saddle, 16 in. seat, \$500 ea. Mike Foye, Trinity 336-861-3313.

Billy Cook roper saddle, 15 in. seat, \$800. Grady Draughn, Yadkinville 336-468-7889 or 468-2336.

Horse boarding, pasture yr-rnd, barn access, fountain & water troughs, fed daily, exp horse owner, \$250/mo. Caroline Reynolds, Lawndale 704-472-4820.

Miniature horses, male, \$500 ea obo. Terry Parker, Four Oaks 919-291-2279.

2-horse farm wagon, solid frame, tongue & wheels, needs bed, \$1,500. Martin Carter, Apex 919-255-2366 or 362-0048.

HORSES

Miniature donkey jack, 7 y/o, \$575; miniature donkey jenny, tame, spotted gray/white, \$975 obo. Matthew Yoder, Union Grove 336-468-2530.



Horses & Supplies Wanted

Miniature donkeys. Roger Kercher, East Bend 336-413-3803.



Poultry & Supplies For Sale

Spring hatch chickens, Dominique, Copper blk marans, Rhode Island red, other; min 10, sold Sat. only, \$3 & up. Joe Snow, Thurmond 336-648-5997.

6,000 started pullets, vaccs, debeaked, \$8 & up. E.D. Snider, Staley 336-708-2998.

Old English bantams, \$20/pair. Larry Thompson, Henderson 252-213-6497.

Cochin bantams, blk/silver & rust/brown, \$10/pair. Pattie Remington, Supply 910-338-4304.

3 poultry houses for lease or sale, 42 x 500, 2 wells, co water, currently in operation, \$425,000. Tim Eatman, Polkton 704-254-7766.

California, blue scale, gambel, other quail; 8 varieties bobwhite; partridge, Philby, chukar, Hungarian, \$3 & up. Jimmy Furr, Stanfield 704-888-0213.

Ruddy shelducks, \$100 ea; Australian blk swans & mute swans, \$350 & up; Cape Barren geese, \$400 ea. Jim Simpson, Indian Trail 704-361-6497.

Birmingham roller pigeons, performance bred, \$20 & up; white racing homers, \$20 & up. Darrell Dennis, Randleman 336-318-9285, after 6 p.m.

30+ belt driven fans, 48 in., GC, \$100 ea. John McCurdy, Taylorsville 828-632-9039 or 234-7934.

Peacock chicks, blk shoulder & India blue, \$25 & up. Richard Simmons, Clarendon 910-640-7114.



Livestock For Sale

Jersey steer, dob 1/22/18, around 1,000 lbs., \$650. Ritchie Bowman, Taylorsville 828-612-0787.

Reg Angus bulls, \$1,500 & up. Luke Storie, Hamptonville 336-244-5019 or 469-1790.

Reg Angus & SimAngus bulls, breeding age, calving ease, recent breeding soundness exam, \$2,895. Steve McPherson, Snow Camp 336-263-6042.

Reg Angus bull, dob 9/2/18, AAA reg #19412456, BW +1.2, \$2,100. Greg Collins, Westfield 336-351-4734.

Blk Angus herd bulls, steers & heifers, Traveler, GT Maximum & 727 Executive blood, \$700 & up. Tim Moss, Graham 336-376-3773, 5-11 p.m.

2 Lowline Angus cow/calf pairs, not reg, 2 y/o cows, (1) 3 m/o heifer, (1) 1 m/o bull calf; sold together, \$4,000 obo. Pat Perry, Zebulon 984-255-8292.

Alpine dairy, spring buck & doe kids, weathered buck kids, milkers, mature buck; reg or unreg, \$100 & up. Leon Albright, Thomasville 336-250-7288.

LIVESTOCK

Belted Galloway bull, dob 1/7/19, reg, gentle, dun & white, dam red, will deliv in NC, \$2,500. Ann Furr, Rockwell 704-798-3460.

5 Nigerian dwarf wethers, 1 y/o, friendly, \$60 ea or \$225/all. Karey Brindle, Mt. Pleasant 704-960-7342.

Reg Santa Gertrudis, calves, \$650 & up; bulls, \$1,000 & up; cow/calf pairs, \$2,500 & up. Charles O'Bryant III, Reidsville 336-908-0276.

Charolais bulls & heifers, 7 mos & up, polled, gentle, reg sires, \$850 & up. Johnny Harrison, Salisbury 704-639-0867.

Nigerian dwarf billy, 3 y/o, blk, \$125; Nigerian dwarf kids, blue eyes, spotted, \$125 ea. Donald Edge, Hope Mills 910-425-5335 or 988-5748.

Twin Holstein heifers, dob 6/9/18, \$650 ea. Tammy Foster, Taylorsville 828-320-7285.

Barbados blackbelly ewes, lambs & rams, 1 m/o-3 y/o, \$100-\$300. Nancy Hook, Middlesex 252-235-2545.

2 bucks, Boer/fainting cross, dob 1/23/21, solid white w/ brown/blk head, tame, gentle, \$125 ea. Dodd Linker, Clemmons 336-712-2484.

Reg Nubian buck, dob 3/23/20, closed herd, cae free, \$450. Robert Wallace, Charlotte 704-941-0268.

61 commercial Angus & SimAngus cross heifers, vaccs, dewormed, preg checked, ai bred, \$1,675 & up. Travis Graves, Burlington 336-266-0460.

Ewe & ram lambs, dob Feb/Mar, \$200 & up; buck & doe kids, dob Mar/Apr, \$125 & up. Mark Mills, Peachland 704-254-5724.

Reg Blk Angus bulls, 18 m/o, guaranteed breeders, ai sired, calving ease, docile, \$2,500-\$2,800. Russell Caudill, Asheboro 910-975-0506.

Blk SimAngus & Angus bulls, polled, bred for calving ease, muscle & growth, \$2,000-\$2,500. William Pyle, Franklinton 919-215-5677.

Nubian/Boer mix, bucklings, dob 3/21, \$100 ea; 5 y/o doe, \$250. L.A. Mize, Lexington 336-250-4520.



Seeds & Plants For Sale

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals or businesses offering nursery stock for sale in North Carolina are required to obtain either a nursery or nursery dealer license. For more information, contact the NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division at 800-206-9333 or 919-707-3730.

Blueberry plant variety; early, mid, late season, lrg order discount, covid handling procedures, \$3.50-\$15. Michael Crippen, Garland 910-529-1469.

Sunflower seeds, 12-14 lb. flower, 15-18 in. diameter, SASE & \$3/25 seeds; \$5/50 seeds. N. Smoot, 6227 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370.

Cockscorb seeds, huge blossom head, crimson color, 18 in. stalk, about 200 seeds, SASE & \$3 cash. Barry Cox, 6225 Welborn Rd, Trinity, NC 27370.

Old English boxwoods, approx 30 y/o, 18-36 in., 2 doz avail, \$0.90/in. tall. Gary Michael, Lexington 336-239-3717.

SEEDS & PLANTS

Boxwood bushes, 2-5 ft., around 400 avail, buyer digs, \$10 ea. Rhod Lowe, Salisbury 704-202-9605, Mon-Sat, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Scuppernong & muscadine vines, 3-4 ft., potted, healthy, several varieties, \$15. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, no texts.

Canna bulbs, crimson red, instr incld, shipping paid on 10 or more; check + \$2 ea. Ivan Blevins, 6930 Blenheim Ct, Rural Hall, NC 27045, 843-213-8380.

Native perennials, 4 in. tall pots, \$4.95 ea; 18 or more, \$4.49 ea. Greg Bruhn, Raleigh 919-790-0480.

Triple Crown thornless blackberry plants, \$7/plant. Ronnie Norris, Todd 336-877-4285.

Little white cucumber seeds, SASE & \$1 cash/tsp. Jim Bostian, 6235 River Bend Rd, Claremont, NC 28610, 828-459-9276.

Long handle dipper gourd & cosmos color variety, \$2; okra, Clemson spineless, Texas Hill red, \$3; SASE, Leonard Moses, 2605 Laburnum Ave, Charlotte, NC 28205.



Seeds & Plants Wanted

White multiplying spring onions, 1-2 lbs. Isaac Perry, Bailey 252-235-5069.

Multiplier onions, white or yellow; perennial clump onion. Mike Trivette, Union Grove 704-775-2500, call or text.

Small Animals For Sale

Tennessee redback rabbits, ground started, \$12 ea. Mark Hinson, Goldsboro 919-734-7800.

Grown Missouri cottontails, \$15 ea. Larry Thompson, Henderson 252-213-6497.



Supplies For Sale

Food grade water totes, 275 gal, \$100 ea; plastic barrels, solid top, 55 gal, \$10 ea; burning barrels, \$10 ea. Jeff Brittain, Hickory 828-327-4782.

Wood stove, 36 in. long, 16 in. high, sits on 16 in. legs, \$400 firm. Levi Barney, Lexington 336-764-1074.

Fire extinguisher off combine, water type, stainless steel, 2 ½ gal, easily refillable at home, \$35. Gary Michael, Lexington 336-239-3717.

Alum irrig pipe, 188-20 ft. joints, 5 in. pipe, \$3,760. Neil Dowd, West End 910-690-6425.

Dipper & bird gourds, home-grown, various sizes, \$2 ea. Bob Whitaker, Mocksville 336-469-4822, no texts.

Tomato stakes, tobacco sticks, Mason jars, \$1-\$20. Neal Lee, Advance 336-998-8922, nights.

Myers shallow well pump, 110 or 220v, 1hp, EC, \$175. Jack Matthews, Charlotte 704-846-1903.

Gourds, all sizes & shapes, \$0.50 ea. Jim Bostian, Claremont 828-459-9276.

Log barn, 18 x 18 ft., \$1,000 obo. Kenneth Chilton, Pilot Mtn 336-374-2410 or 399-1973.

Industrial air compressor, Lynch brand, \$400. Todd Fries, Gold Hill 704-202-4281.

FARM SUPPLIES

Corrugated pipe, 8 in. diameter, 20 ft. long, 8 sections avail, \$15 ea. Margie Teague, Ramseur 336-318-1604.

Oak work table, 2 ft. wide, 4 ft. long, \$20. John McSwain, Shelby 704-482-2912.



Supplies Wanted

Old tobacco sticks, hand-split; old wooden apple crates; both GC, lrg quantities. Glenn Fluharty, Lexington 336-250-1350.



Trucks & Trailers For Sale

Tobacco plant trailer, GC, metal top, side curtains, \$600. Doug Dodson, Madison 336-871-2798.

Farm trailer, 2-axle, GC, \$1,500. David Lomax, Denton 336-688-5313.

1993 Chevy 2500 liftgate, restored 2020, 5.7 efi eng, 113,000 mi, no accidents, 1 owner, \$9,500. Tony Smith, Raleigh 919-971-1800.

1996 Itnl 8100, DT-466, 227,000 mi, 250hp, 7-spd, EC, \$9,800 obo. Scott Turner, Lawndale 704-472-5767, call or text.

Stoll gooseneck trailer, GC, 24 ft., flat bed, good for hay, \$2,300. Richard Biggerstaff, Maiden 828-381-2220.

1991 Chevy truck, single cab, ½-ton, 4wd, 5.7 eng, \$3,000; 1992 F250, ext cab, 4wd, 7.3 diesel eng, \$5,000. Todd Fries, Gold Hill 704-202-4281.

1994 GMC Topkick, 81,000 mi, pintle hitch, 12 ft. bed/sides, 6-spd, shed kept, doub frame, 1 owner, \$25,500. Russ Hanes, Glendale Springs 828-406-6365.

5 Firestone tires, Trans Force HT, LT245/75R/17, load range E, low mi, \$50 ea or \$250/all. David Pearsall, Snow Camp 336-376-9431.

Calico stock trailer, 16 ft., bumper pull, \$5,895. Y.D. Saul, Elon 336-213-6292 or 260-7606.

Landscape trailer, 16 ft., \$3,500. H.O. Davis, Elon 336-260-7606.

1989 Western Star, 3406 Cat, 9-spd trans, 18 ft. single hoist dump bed, recent paint, \$20,000. Angela McSwain, Norwood 704-984-2644.

1966 Ford F100 truck, long bed, 352 eng, all orig, runs & drives, \$9,000. Robert Johnson, Kernersville 336-788-8402.

Homemade trailer, 75 x 16, dual wheels, triaxle, 13 in. rails, wooden floor, \$1,500. Dwight Beane, Trinity 336-431-5083.

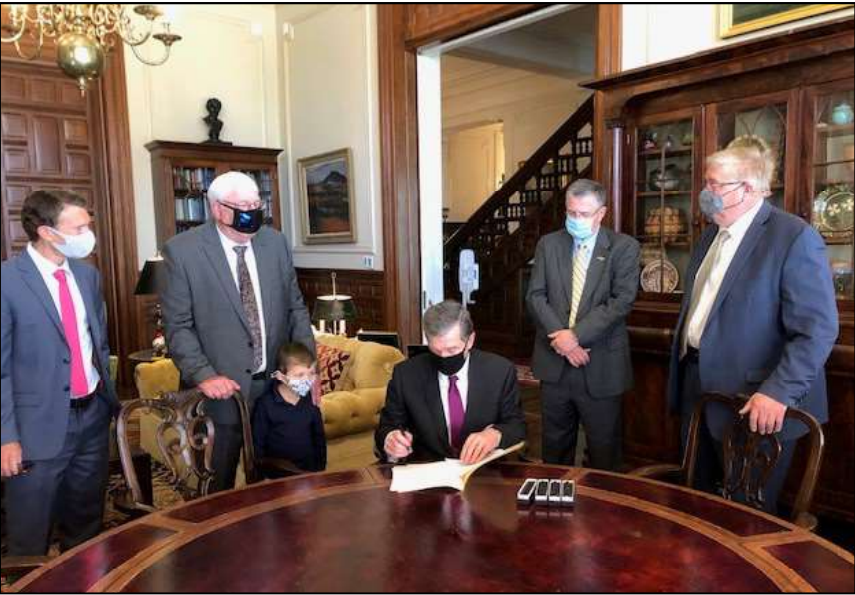
1979 Itnl fuel truck, RG, all pumps/meters, \$2,400. Miles Little, Midland 704-791-1438.

Military tanker, stainless steel, non-magnetic, 5,000 gal, \$3,000. John Yow, Chapel Hill 919-730-0242.

Read more on ag

To keep up with the latest on the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, check out the department's blog at www.ncagr.gov/blog.

It’s official! New NCDA&CS building named The Steve Troxler Agricultural Sciences Center



Above left, Gov. Roy Cooper (seated) invited Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler (second from left) to witness the signing of legislation designating that the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ soon-to-open multi-lab facility be named The Steve Troxler Agricultural Sciences Center. The legislation easily passed in the General Assembly with bi-partisan support. The 225,000 square-foot-facility (pictured at right) is the largest building project every undertaken by NCDA&CS. It is expected to officially open this summer, and will house more disciplines of science than any other state laboratory in the country. The facility brings together the labs and offices for the divisions of Food and Drug Protection, Structural Pest Control and Pesticides, Standards and Veterinary. Pictured with Troxler and Cooper, is Troxler’s son Shawn (left to right) and grandson, Summit, Joe Reardon, assistant commissioner for regulatory programs, and Zane Hedgecock, NCDA&CS chief of staff.

Sweet potatoes

(Continued from pg. 4)

increase in the volume of sweet potatoes at the research station called for an increase in space. A reflection of collaboration

The funding that went into the building reflects the collaboration that helps North Carolina lead the sweet potato industry in the U.S. – from research to production on farms. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture paid for most of the building, but research teams from N.C. State University’s Department of Horticultural Science also contributed.

“The General Assembly approved us [NCDA&CS] to spend \$300,000, and that money came from the sell of timber grown on NCDA&CS research stations. That basically purchased the building shell and constructed the interior storage rooms,” Barrier said. “In order to make it useable for sweet potato research this year, we relied on funding from the N.C. State sweet potato project leaders who will use the new facility – Dr. Craig Yencho, Dr. Jonathan Schultheis and Dr. Katie Jennings. Together they spent more than \$45,000 to purchase ventilation system components, a control and alarm system, a concrete pad to connect the new building to the existing building and guard rails to protect the walls. With our operating budget here at the station we also spent more than \$6,000, and then the SweetPotato Commission has committed an additional nearly \$40,000.”

Dr. Yencho is the professor who leads N.C. State’s Sweetpotato and Potato Breeding and Genetics Programs. His team contributed \$30,000 to the building. Dr. Schultheis and his team, which focuses on commercial production, contributed \$10,000. Dr. Jennings and her team, which focuses on weed management, contributed \$4,500.

“We couldn’t have done this project and had sweet potatoes moved in without collaboration and contribution from the project leaders,” Barrier said.

The contribution from the N.C. SweetPotato Commission will pay for an emergency generator large enough to provide back-up power for both the new storage facility and the older storage facility. The generator will ensure climate-controlled protection for valuable sweet potato germplasm (plants, parts or seeds used to grow new plants). It will also make sure a power outage doesn’t ruin research trials that test postharvest storage of sweet potato varieties.

“Craig’s group is chipping in on that particular expenditure too, so that’s another example of a partnership within a partnership,” said Michelle Grainger, the commission’s executive director. “It’s a piece of equipment that really is going to help protect our future and the future of the industry.”

A major goal of the research is to find a replacement for the Covington sweet potato, a variety Yencho and Pecota developed that has been a gold standard for quality and production for many years. However, Covington sweet potatoes aren’t resistant to guava root knot nematodes, which are microscopic plant-parasitic roundworms. The nematodes have been found in North Carolina soils since 2013, and they can cause significant damage to sweet potatoes and other crops.

So across the sweet potato industry, there’s interest in developing new varieties to ensure there is a future for sweet potato growers. In North Carolina, that means there’s an especially strong partnership between NCDA and NCSU to help secure that future. That partnership dovetails research station employees with horticulture science researchers, and it extends to the N.C. SweetPotato Commission, sweet potato farmers and processors.

“I can rely on Hunter and his team to handle all the field plots – apply all the fertilizer, manage all the crop production chemicals and manage all this infrastructure – and I can come from on campus and bring our resources to the table, and we work together in partnership. I don’t know of a single other state that does it that way,” Yencho said. “We have great resources to do research, and they’re spread across all these different environments. I don’t think many other places have that.”

Yencho was referencing the fact that sweet potato research takes place at other research stations too, including those in Clayton, Whiteville, Kinston and the Sandhills. Any of the state’s 18 research stations are potential testing grounds if a research project needed to explore



North Carolina continues to invest in sweet potato research. North Carolina leads the nation in sweet potato production, making it a significant crop for the state.

from the mountains to the coast.

Growers have also shown to be willing participants in keeping North Carolina’s sweet potato industry strong, Grainger said. She said because many growers believe in the importance of research and working together, they have repeatedly allocated some of their land for additional research space.

“They actually incorporate their own staff to help collect data and monitor things,” Grainger said. “That’s very powerful too. I think a lot of people have an idea that farmers are very closed off and they’re very private – and to some extent I think there’s some truth to that – but in my experience, they want you to understand, and they want to be a part of helping to progress their crop or crops and helping ensure that there is a future well beyond themselves. That adds to that whole collective ecosystem of partnerships.”

Pecota and Yencho have certainly noticed the collaboration in North Carolina make a positive difference. A few decades ago, the outlook for sweet potatoes in the state was grim.

“One of the first SweetPotato Commission meetings Craig and I went to was back when things were not looking so good. Acreage was still going down and acreage was shifting over to Louisiana, and we were talking to growers, and they were basically saying ‘We’re telling our kids not to go into farming – not to go into sweet potatoes,’ and those kids are the people we’re working with now!” Pecota said.

The exciting part for Pecota and Yencho is that they’ve seen the collaborative efforts work. It’s resulted in great progress for the sweet potato industry in North Carolina. The need for a new sweet potato building is just one big physical sign of that progress.